

SENATOR PROMISES NASA SUPPORT

NASA-Langley Noise Lab 1

BY LAURA MASON
Staff Reporter

Promising continued support of NASA projects and the Langley Research Center, Sen. Frank E. Moss of Utah, chairman of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences officially helped to dedicate the new \$5.9 million dollar Aircraft Noise Reduction Laboratory and break ground for the construction of the Systems Engineering Building at a dual ceremony at NASA's Langley Research Center Thursday.

"You people here at Langley keep coming up with the solutions to crucial national problems such as noise abatement and energy conservation and the Congress will keep supporting you in every way possible," said Moss.

The ceremony, planned originally outside at the site of the new facilities, was moved at the last minute to the LRC Activities Building because of rain.

One of five speakers, Moss said "The government must bring its technological muscle to bear on these problems and I predict the next generation of aircraft will be so designed that fuel requirements will be 30 per cent less than required today."

Rep. Thomas N. Downing and Rep. John W. Wydler of N.Y. directed most of their remarks towards aircraft noise and the environment. Downing, a native of Newport News, said he took great pride in the nearly 60 years of work done at the NASA center and outlined the work the new noise reduction lab would be engaged in.

Predicting solar energy would be used extensively in the future in the same manner it will be used to completely heat and cool the new Systems Engineering Building now under construction at LRC, J. Guyford Stever, director of the National Science Foundation said no one energy source could solve all problems but that solar energy "is a key investment for the future."

Also speaking at Thursday's ceremonies were Dr. Rocco A. Petrone, new associate administrator of NASA and "the only scientist to ever walk the surface of the moon, geologist Dr. Harrison H. (Jack) Schmitt, Apollo 17 astronaut and now assistant administrator of energy programs for NASA.

The new \$1.85 million Systems

Engineering Building will be a practical demonstration of how alternate sources of power may help to alleviate America's energy problems, said NASA officials. The completion of the 50,000-square-foot building is planned for mid-1975 and will contain 1,500 square-feet of solar collectors which will be located beside it. It is hoped that refinements in the collector system will eventually lead to the supply of all the energy requirements for the building, said one NASA official.

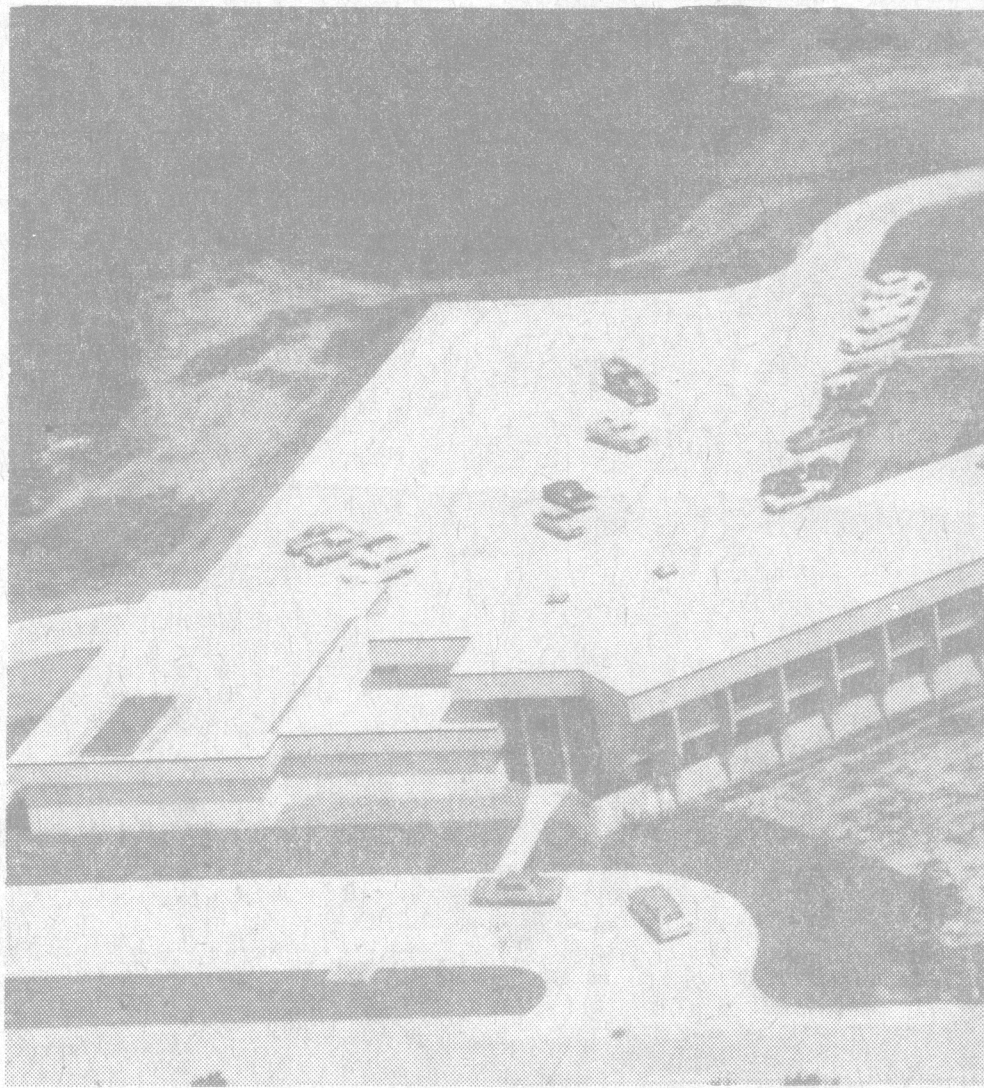
Dignitaries attending the ceremonies were given a tour of the recently completed Aircraft Noise Reduction Laboratory, which won't be fully operational until September of this year, and treated to a exhibition of how some of

the equipment in the lab would be used.

Robert A. Golub and Homer Morgan, both of the Acoustics Branch at LRC explained how each of the rooms in the facility would be used. He said engine noise would eventually be reduced so much the main problem would then be airframe noise (noise made as the aircraft moves through the air). "This lab is set up to test that as well," said Golub.

According to Morgan, the facility will be used by NASA personnel exclusively on aircraft noise research but that other experts from all over the country will be able to use the facility.

The laboratory was approved by Congress in 1969 and construction on the building began in August of 1971.



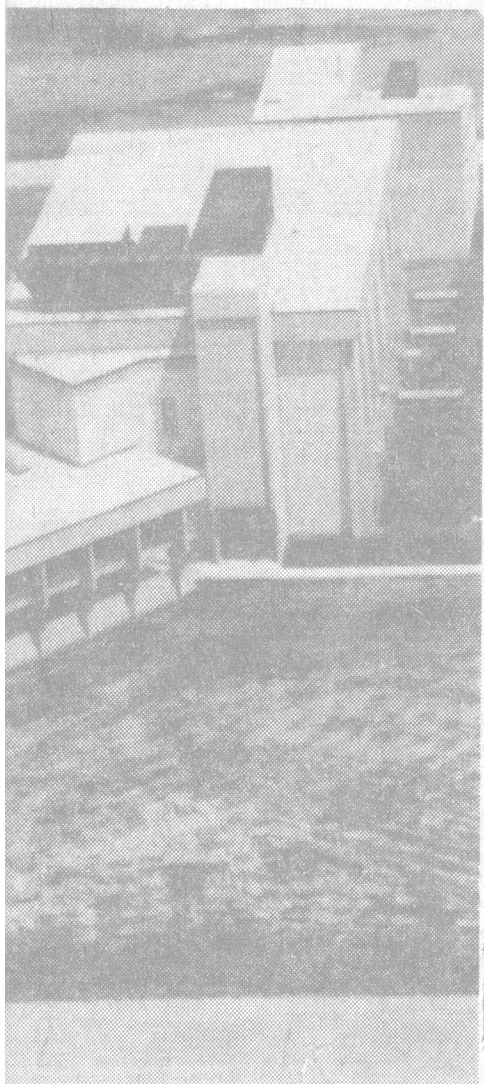
Aerial view of the new Aircraft Noise Reduction Laboratory

Dedicated

Fiberglass and steel silencing equipment has been used in all the airducts to reduce noise in the building. Over 7,000 cubic yards of concrete was poured for the building where the double walls are a foot thick. John E. Doyle of LRC was project manager during construction with Gordon H. Jaehnig as technical project engineer and William H. Mayes acted as research project engineer.

Dr. Edgar M. Cortright, director of LRC, presided at the ceremonies for the two facilities.

Wydler, also a member of the Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee said pointing to Langley's long list of achievements "The curse of mankind (noise) may soon be removed."



ry, dedicated Thursday.